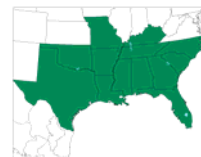


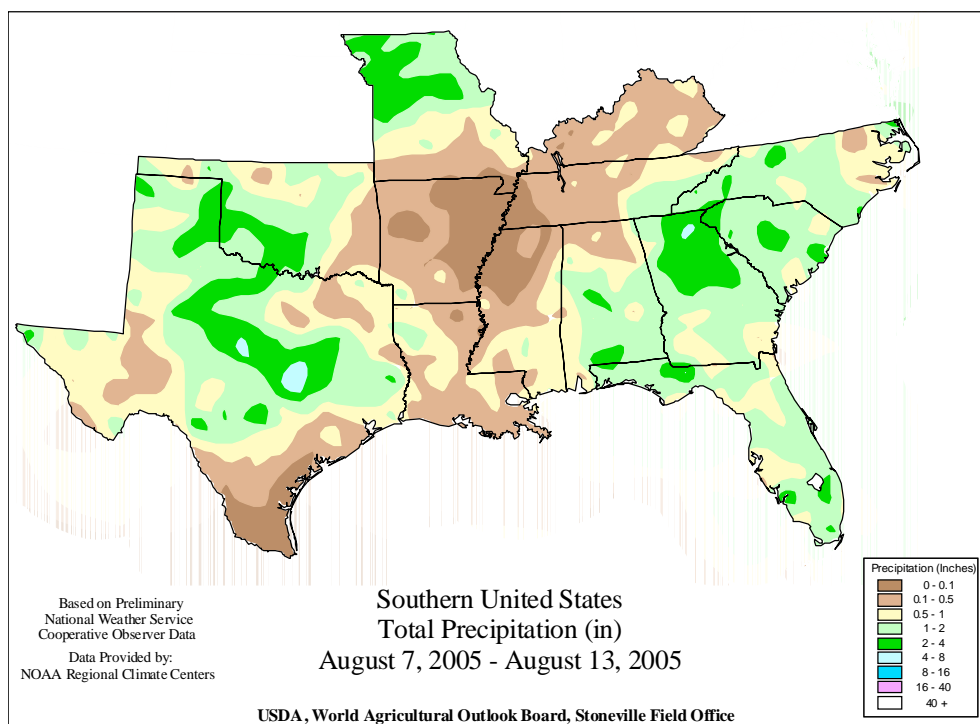


**Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Stoneville Field Office**



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

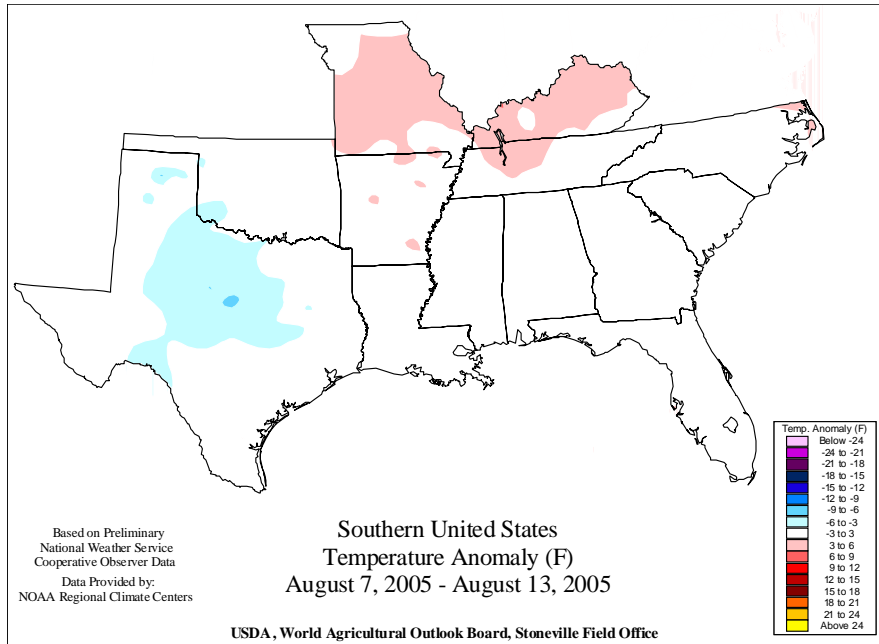
August 7 to August 13, 2005



Weather Highlights

Two low pressure systems brought considerable rainfall, especially to the western and eastern portions of the region. Much-needed rainfall (.50 to 4 inches or more), finally occurred in many drought-stricken areas of Texas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. However, locally heavy rain of 4 to 8 inches caused flash flooding in areas of central Texas. Areas east of the Mississippi River had a similar pattern to last week as a low pressure system along the Gulf coast produced widespread rainfall. However, compared to last week, inland areas in Georgia received more rainfall than Gulf-coastal cities. Northeast Georgia received locally heavy rain of 4 to 8 inches, while other areas received between .50 to 4 inches of rain. Interior portions, such as the Delta region and surrounding areas, remained extremely dry. Little Rock, Arkansas has experienced 38 days of exceptional dryness since July 7, its second driest period on record since the Dust Bowl year of 1930.

Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees F below normal in many areas of Texas, due to persistent cloud cover and rainfall. In drier areas of Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee, weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees F above normal. Little Rock, Arkansas recorded three consecutive days of 100 degrees F or more, the first such occurrence since September 2000.



Mostly dry weather prevailed in the Mississippi Delta, with isolated shower development. With only late-planted crops requiring irrigation, the majority of crops favored the hot, dry conditions. Cotton bolls opened rapidly throughout the week, especially as temperatures rose back into the high 90's with a return of heat indices of 105 degrees F.

(For additional information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)

Agricultural Summary

United States Crop Progress Report*					
Week Ending					
		August 14, 2005	August 7, 2005	August 14, 2004	2000-2004 Average
		Percent			
Cotton	Setting Bolls	86	78	90	91
	Bolls Opening	9	7	11	13
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	64	61	73	---
Corn	Dough	65	44	55	56
	Dented	23	10	22	21
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	51	52	73	---
Rice	Headed	82	67	84	82
	Harvested	7	3	11	12
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	62	62	72	---
Soybeans	Setting Pods	89	76	79	78
	Percent (Good to Excellent)	51	51	69	---
*Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)					
"---" = Not Reported					

Cotton:

Bolls were setting on 86 percent of the acreage nationally, compared with 90 percent last year and 91 percent for the 5-year average. Nine percent of the acreage had open bolls, behind last year's pace by 2 points and the 5-year average pace by 4 points. No southern state was ahead of their 5-year average boll opening pace. Louisiana and Mississippi were significantly behind their 5-year average boll opening pace by 14 points and 13 points, respectively. Nationally, crop conditions improved 3 percentage points from the previous week to 64 percent of the crop rated good to excellent.

Corn:

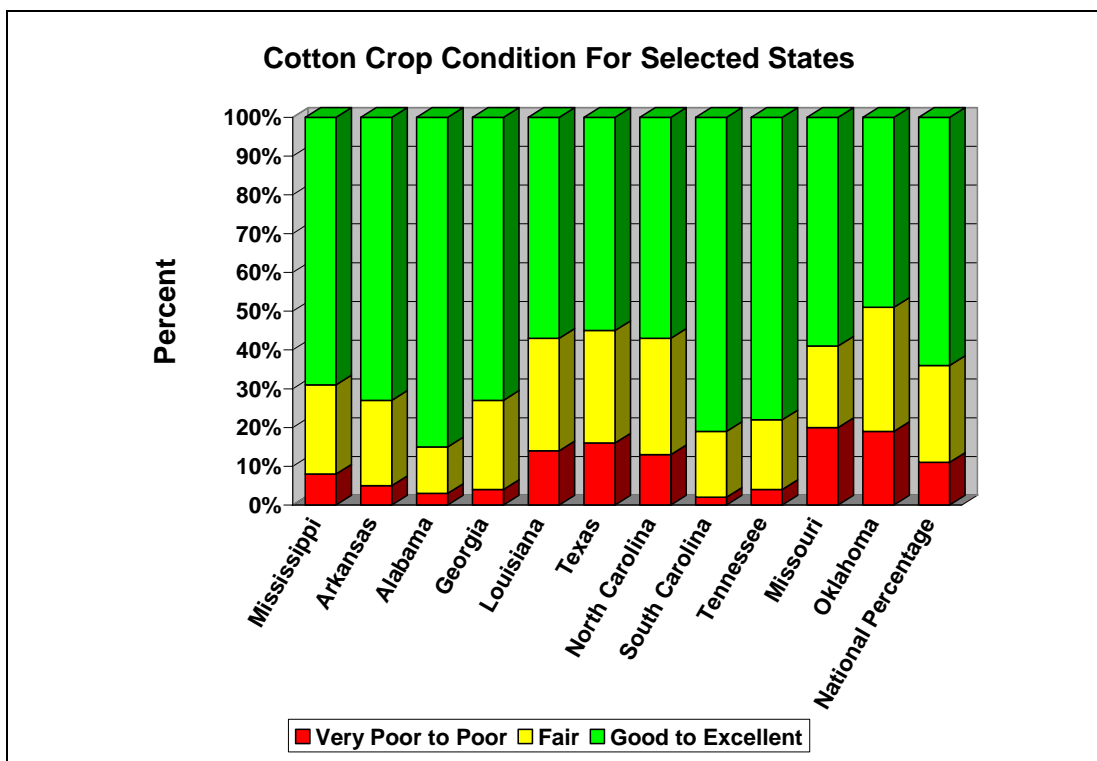
Sixty-five percent of the nation's crop was in the dough stage, 10 points ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the 5-year average. Crop acreage in the good to excellent category declined one point from the previous week to 51 percent. Crop conditions improved in Texas, Louisiana, and Alabama, but remained the same or declined in the rest of the southern states. Missouri, at 30 percent good to excellent, and Texas, at 40 percent good to excellent, continued to rate their crop the lowest of all southern states. The corn crop in Alabama, South Carolina, and Georgia led the southern states with 87, 84, and 80 percent good to excellent, respectively.

Rice:

Nationally, 7 percent of the acreage had been harvested, 4 points behind last year's pace and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Sixty-two percent of the nation's crop was rated good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week. Mississippi continued to lead all southern states with 84 percent of their crop rated good to excellent, despite an 8 point reduction from the previous week. The harvest continued in Texas and Louisiana, but the pace lagged the 5-year average in both states. Crop ratings in the good to excellent category improved 14 points in Texas and 11 points in Louisiana.

Soybeans:

Pods were set on 89 percent of the acreage, 10 points ahead of last year and 11 points ahead of the 5-year average. Crop conditions, with 51 percent of the crop rated good to excellent, were unchanged from the previous week. Southern states' soybean harvest had begun in Mississippi and Texas. Crop conditions in the southern states improved in only Louisiana and South Carolina, both by 2 points. The other southern states' good to excellent acreage continued to decline and was rated the lowest in Missouri (23 percent), Texas (25 percent), and Arkansas (34 percent).



Cotton Conditions by State:

Nationally, 64 percent of the cotton acreage was rated good to excellent, a 3 point improvement from the previous week. Eighty-six percent of Tennessee's acreage was rated good to excellent, a decline of 4 points from the previous week. Alabama, with 85 percent of their crop rated good to excellent, and South Carolina, with 81 percent of their crop rated good to excellent, had the best crop conditions of all the southern states. Texas' crop improved 6 points to 55 percent of their acres rated good to excellent. Oklahoma improved their good to excellent ratings by 1 point to 49 percent rated good to excellent, the lowest of any southern state.

(For additional information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)